

## OBITUARIES

Obituaries appearing in this section are paid for and written by families, often through the services of a funeral director.

### Richard Villalobos

SHREWSBURY – Richard (Rick) Villalobos passed away quietly after a lengthy illness on August 15, 2010 in Shrewsbury, MA.

He was the loving husband of the late Joan (Smith Jarrett) Villalobos. Rick was born May 28, 1928 in Phoenix, AZ to Mexican immigrants, Ramon and Lupe Villalobos. He lived in Orange County, CA from early childhood until 1984, then in Duxbury, MA until recently moving to Shrewsbury.

Before his retirement, Rick was a chemical engineer who specialized in the design of sophisticated analytical equipment. He also took pride in his family, his garden, and in wood-working including furniture design. He loved to camp, and took his family on many trips, including several to New Mexico, Baja, CA, and Ashland, OR; and extended driving trips from Orange County to Mexico City and to Montreal, Quebec. Rick's VW bus with his redesigned interior traveled the length of southern Canada. Rick enjoyed traveling to the Shakespeare Festival in Ashland, OR where he would camp with friends from the West—an annual tradition that he continued after moving to Duxbury until the trip became too difficult for him. Additional pastimes included arguing politics, reading, cooking Mexican feasts, photography and photographic development, visiting museums of science and of art, playing piano, travel in Europe, regular attendance at the opera and plays, fine wines, dry martinis, entertaining, and telling a good joke.

Rick was very proud of his mental acumen and of his accomplishments, particularly in science. He had a brilliant and inquisitive mind



Richard Villalobos

and loved to share his knowledge: a car trip might include a lesson in the physics of pot-holes or an animated explanation

of plate tectonics. He was also a loving father and husband who enjoyed family life immensely and took great pride in his children, grandchildren, and extended family.

Rick was an active member of the Unitarian Churches in Anaheim and Fullerton, CA, and in Duxbury. He was always very informed and opinionated about social and political affairs, and denounced organizations and individuals he considered racist or bigoted. In his last few months of life, Rick complained about a waiter's treatment of a black friend, pointing out that he was also a person of color, resulting in the waiter's firing.

Rick's survivors include children Naomi Villalobos of CA, Raymond Villalobos of MA, Richard A. Villalobos of CA, Elizabeth Nutley of CA, and Shari Fessel of WA; step-sons Dennis Jarrett and Brent Jarrett and step-daughter Julie Pompei, all of New Mexico; and 17 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife Joan Villalobos; son Gabriel Villalobos; step-son Jonathon Tucker.

A celebration of Rick's life will take place on Saturday, Oct. 9, 2010, at First Parish Church in Duxbury at 9:00 a.m. The service will be officiated by Reverend Catherine Cullen. The family will scatter Rick's ashes at a later date.